



Re: Avenues: World School

Dear Planning Commissioners,

The District 6 Neighborhood Leaders Group (D6NLG), an association established over a decade ago, is comprised of officers, board members and involved community representatives from the multitude of neighborhood associations across District 6 in San José. We have been involved for years in advocating for developing San José into a safe, attractive, and inviting city.

We support the Avenues: World School for a number of reasons:

Environment:

The school's location in the Midtown area of District 6 will contribute to the continuing progress of this neighborhood creating a mixed use that will make this neighborhood safer, walkable, and resident friendly. This exciting new project will infuse it with more life and energy than its previous use, which was mostly underutilized. The scale of the proposed school and its future plans is in scale for the neighborhood. It is possible that students and staff may take advantage of mass transit near the site as demonstrated by nearby BASIS school. Furthermore the leaders of the school will provide opportunities for the community to access campus amenities.

We would like to note that Avenues: World School is committed to sustainability by re-using existing buildings and adding architectural elements that give it a distinct and an aesthetic pleasing look. The parking structure on site will further limit its impact on the residents.

Avenues: World School's educational philosophy includes commitment to community engagement at their campus. We look forward to being partners with Avenues in the coming years to build an enduring relationship for the benefit of not only our neighborhood, but also the city of San Jose, and by extension the greater Silicon Valley.

Safety: Driving in San José can be challenging. San José has signed on to a "Vision Zero" program to which Avenues World School is committed to being a good neighbor and supporter of the city's goals by careful consideration of the flow of traffic to quickly and safely move its students, and staff while minimizing its impact on the community.

Aesthetics: As mentioned before and worth repeating the project has chosen sustainability by re-using existing buildings. What stands out is the project's addition of

architectural elements that truly make it appealing, unique and maybe even a landmark in District 6. We commend them for this.

Thank you,

James Rincon, Chair, D6NLG